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SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Randy I. Dorn Old Capitol Building · PO BOX 47200 · Olympia, WA 98504-7200 · http://www.k12.wa.us

November 21, 2014

() Action RequiredDue date: (if applicable)(X) Informational

MEMORANDUM NO. 073-14M SCHOOL FACILITIES AND ORGANIZATION

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents

School District Superintendents

School District Facility and Capital Directors School Maintenance Operations Directors

FROM: Randy I. Dorn, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools.

CONTACT: Gordon Beck, (360) 725-6261, gordon.beck@k12.wa.us

Agency TTY: (360) 664-3631

Attached is a letter of support from EPA Region 10, OSPI, WSU Extension, and DOH, encouraging districts to use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in schools.

Children face many risks from pests and pesticide exposures. Pests can bite, spread disease, cause allergic reactions, and trigger asthma attacks. Also, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics, "Epidemiologic evidence demonstrates associations between early life exposure to pesticides and pediatric cancers, decreased cognitive function, and behavioral problems." Furthermore, pest and pesticide problems can be quite costly and cause legal liability for districts.

To promote safe pest management practices in Washington, EPA, WSU Extension, and Washington State Department of Agriculture are teaming up to provide free training and networking events for administrators, facility directors, custodial and maintenance staff, and contracted pest management professionals. For detailed information about these

¹ American Academy of Pediatrics Council of Environmental Health. (2012). Policy Statement: Pesticide Exposure in Children. *Pediatrics*, 130(6), e1757-e1763. doi: 10.1542/peds.2012-2757

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and other events, visit <u>schoolipm.wsu.edu</u> or sign up for the WSU urban IPM email distribution list by emailing <u>urban.ipm@wsu.edu</u>.

To learn more about Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in schools, read the <u>IPM</u> <u>Business Case</u>.

If you have any questions, please contact Gordon Beck, Director, School Facilities & Organization, (360) 725-6261, gordon.beck@k12.wa.us.
The agency TTY number is (360) 664-3631.

SCHOOL FACILIITES & ORGANIZATION

Gordon Beck Director

K-12 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

JoLynn Berge Chief Financial Officer

RD:kb

Attachment

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